liberalized to make them more facilitative. As against twelve weeks taken earlier, permission to shoot is now given in three weeks where shooting is in non-sensitive areas. Further, procedure for script clearance has been streamlined and requirement for attachment of a liaison officer with the shooting team and preview of the completed film is not mandatory.

Private players for DTH services

4112. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open up Doordarshan's DTH to private players;

(b) if so, the rules and regulations laid down for the purpose especially to exclude uncalled for obscenity, crime and violence from DTH; and

(c) whether any private players have applied for such DTH services, if so, the details of the applications and the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) For operation of Direct-to-Home (DTH) broadcasting service [other than Ku band transmission of Doordarshan], five applications have been received so far of which M/s A.S.C. Enterprises have been granted the licence.

The other four applicants, whose applications are under consideration, are:

1. Essel, Shyam Communications Limited
2. Space T.V. Private Ltd.
3. Sun Direct T.V. Private Ltd., and
4. Noida Software Technology Park Ltd.

DTH project of DD

4113. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: